

Levo, Brian (he/him/his)

From: Kenknight, Jeff
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Levo, Brian; Contreras, Peter; Moore, John (Matthew)
Cc: Martinson, Mathew
Subject: FW: Lower Yakima Valley GWMA

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Initial response from DOH.

From: Means, Mike J (DOH) <mike.means@DOH.WA.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2021 3:47 PM
To: Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; Tibbetts, Dorothy (DOH) <Dorothy.Tibbetts@DOH.WA.GOV>; Brown Miller, Jacqui (DOH) <Jacqui.Brown@doh.wa.gov>
Cc: Myers, Holly R (DOH) <Holly.Myers@doh.wa.gov>; Martinson, Mathew <martinson.mathew@epa.gov>; brad.burnham@doh.wa.gov; Parker, Carmetrus L (DOH) <Carmetrus.Parker@doh.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Lower Yakima Valley GWMA

Hi Jeff,

Thanks so much for reaching out. We've been looking at this as well and Jacqui Brown-Miller on our Policy Team has been working to coordinate getting our information together as a number of our staff have worked on this issue and we've been working with other state agencies as well.

Carmetrus Parker (who I've cc'd here) can help get the scheduling done for a meeting. We'll resolve soon who all from DOH would help to participate soon and then I'll ask Carmetrus to reach out to you.

Mike

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From: Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 1:07 PM
To: Tibbetts, Dorothy (DOH) <Dorothy.Tibbetts@DOH.WA.GOV>; Means, Mike J (DOH) <mike.means@DOH.WA.GOV>
Cc: Myers, Holly R (DOH) <Holly.Myers@doh.wa.gov>; Martinson, Mathew <martinson.mathew@epa.gov>
Subject: Lower Yakima Valley GWMA

Dorothy and Mike – I am reaching out to let you know that on October 26, 2021, the Center for Food Safety, Friends of Toppenish Creek, and Food and Water Watch (Petitioners) submitted a Petition (attached) to the EPA Administrator and Acting Region 10 Regional Administrator to exercise the Agency's emergency powers under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act to address groundwater nitrate contamination that presents a risk to the health of residents of the Lower Yakima Valley (LYV). EPA requests the Department of Health's cooperation in providing additional information related to nitrate contamination in the LYV and the actions that DOH is or will be taking to protect public health. For example, EPA seeks information related to any recent testing of residential wells, DOH's estimate for the number of residential wells with nitrate concentrations exceeding the maximum contaminant level, and whether nitrate contamination impacts wells serving Group A and Group B water systems.

I would like to set up an initial meeting with DOH in January, 2022. Please let me know if you would like to designate a staff person to assist in the scheduling of the meeting.

I look forward to communicating with you more on this issue.

Jeff KenKnight

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